



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20460

August 18, 2000

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Release of the QA00 Version of the *Guidance for Data Quality Assessment: Practical Methods for Data Analysis (EPA QA/G-9)*

FROM: Margaret N. Schneider /s/
Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator
Office of Environmental Information (2810A)

TO: Assistant Administrators
Regional Administrators

Data Quality Assessment is a method to determine whether the type, quantity, and quality of data needed to support Agency decisions has been achieved. In July 1996, EPA released the QA96 version of the document *Guidance for Data Quality Assessment: Practical Methods for Data Analysis* (EPA/600/R-96/084) to assist project managers in performing Data Quality Assessment. The guidance was intended to be a "living document" that would be updated periodically to incorporate new topics and refinements to existing procedures. Attached is the second technical update (version QA00) to the original guidance that includes new topics suggested by users (the first update was version QA97). A copy of this document is available at www.epa.gov/quality.

As this update presents minor enhancements to the previous version, it was not subject to EPA's Peer Review policy. However, the original guidance received intensive peer review prior to its release that was consistent with both the policy and the EPA Peer Review Handbook (1998, EPA 100-B-98-001). In addition, both technical updates (QA97 and QA00) have received a thorough technical review.

Please distribute this document to your staff. I hope that you find it useful in implementing the mandatory Agency-wide Quality System in your environmental data operations. If you have any questions, please contact the Quality Staff at (202) 564-6830.

Attachment

cc: Inspector General
EPA Quality Assurance Managers
EPA Quality Assurance Officers